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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-03 SP-01 NEA-06 ARA-08 OES-03 L-02

RSC-01 DODE-00 INRE-00 /057 W
---------- 114893
O R 191706Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6914
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 19502

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, BR
SUBJECT: FRG SALE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TO BRAZIL

REF: (A) BRASILIA 9400; (B) BONN L7977 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSED CURRENT STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FRG AND BRAZIL ABOUT SALES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY WITH APPROPRIATE, USUALLY WELL-INFORMED OFFICIAL IN MINISTRY OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY. TECHMIN REP INFORMED EMBOFF THAT THIS TOPIC HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AMONG RESPONSIBLE FRG MINISTRIES AND THAT "GUIDELINES" FOR CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOB ABOUT CERTAIN "SENSITIVE" AREAS (I.E. SAFEGUARDS) HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT. A FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH GOB HAS NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN SIGNED.
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2. DURING A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH ECON/COMMERCIAL MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTRY ECONOMICS DIRECTOR HERMES CONFIRMED THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND ADDED THAT THE QUESTION OF SAFEGUARDS WAS A MAJOR CONCERN OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN THE CONTEXT OF GERMAN/BRAZILIAN RELATIONS IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD. IN THIS REGARD HERMES DREW ATTENTION TO THE AGREEMENT HE HAD REACHED WITH THE DEPARTMENT DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON THE CONTROL OF THE EXPORT OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR MATERIALS. HERMES STATED THAT UP TO NOW DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN LIMITED TO MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY AND PRIVATE FIRMS ON THE GERMAN SIDE BUT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD BEGIN NEGOTIATING WITH THE GOB ON SAFEGUARDS AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.

3. HERMES THEN REMARKED THAT HE HAD REPORTS TO THE EFFECT THAT "THE AMERICANS" HAD TOLD BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS THAT IF THEY SIGNED AGREEMENTS WITH GERMAN FIRMS FOR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY THEY RAN A FAR GREATER RISK THAT THE NECESSARY ENRICHMENT SERVICE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ADEQUATE QUANTITIES THAN IF THEY SIGNED WITH AMERICAN FIRMS. HERMES CHARACTERIZED THESE REMARKS AS "HITTING BELOW THE BELT" AND HE ADDED THEY PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF THE OPPONENTS OF THE NPT WHO ARGUED THAT IT WORKED TO GERMANY'S COMMERCIAL DISADVANTAGE.
CASH

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